

10/58998
IAP9 Rec'd PCT/PTO 18 AUG 2006 52046379X00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: HIRANO, et al.

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: August 18, 2006

Title: Method of Friction Stir-Spot Welding and Welding Apparatus

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 & 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

August 18, 2006

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, applicants are submitting herewith a copy of the documents, except for the US patent document listed in the attached form equivalent to Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or PTO/SB/08B for the Examiner's consideration.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted with the new application.

To the extent that the documents listed on the attached form equivalent to Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or PTO/SB/08B are not in the English language, the requirement of 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3) for a concise explanation of the relevance is satisfied by an English Language abstract and a English language version or translation of the foreign patent office report citing the documents.

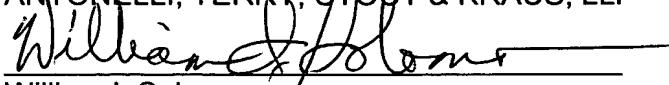
It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement be considered by the Examiner.

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Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including excess claim fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (520.46379X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Application Number	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Filing Date	August 18, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Satoshi HIRANO et al.
				Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
<i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Attorney Docket Number	520.46379X00
Sheet	1	of	2		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials'	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁸
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP 2712838	10/31/1997			
		JP 2001-314983	11/13/2001	Mazda Motor Corp.		Abs
		JP 2001-314982	11/13/2001	Kawasaki Heavy Ind. Ltd. & Mazda Motor Corp		Abs
		JP 2002-137070	05/14/2002	Hitachi Ltd.		Abs

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Application Number	
				Filing Date	August 18, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Satoshi HIRANO
				Group Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
(use as many sheets as necessary)				Attorney Docket Number	520.46379X00
Sheet	2	of	2		

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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